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The Expediency of preventive Wisdom.

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A SERMON

Preached before the RIGHT HONOURABLE the

LORD-MAYOR,

THE ALDERMEN,

AND

GOVERNORS of the several HOSPITALS

OF THE

CITY of *LONDON*.

AT

St. BRIDGET's Church,

On EASTER-MONDAY, 1750.

And Published at the DESIRE of

The LORD-MAYOR and Court of ALDERMEN.

With a DEDICATION and an APPENDIX concerning

SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS.

By the RIGHT REVEREND

ISAAC, Lord Bishop of *WORCESTER*.

THE THIRD EDITION, with ADDITIONS.

LONDON:

Printed by H. WOODFALL, in *Pater-noster-Row*; and sold by H. WHITRIDGE, at the *Royal-Exchange*; and G. WOODFALL, at *Charing-Cross*.

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To the Right Honourable the

LORD-MAYOR,

AND

ALDERMEN, and *Common-Council*,

Of the CITY of LONDON,

AND

GOVERNORS of the ſeveral HOSPITALS, *&c.*

MY LORD,

THE Sermon, which is now offered to Your Lordſhip, and the Magiſtrates of the Metropolis, was preached and printed at the Deſire of one of the moſt reſpectable Communities, which this Kingdom knows; the Lord-Mayor and Aldermen of the City of *London*. And if the Subject is treated in any Degree as it deſerves, Apologies will be leſs neceſſary for ſubmitting, in this ſtill more public manner, to ſome of the moſt able and competent Judges, Matters of ſo great Importance: Which is done, not without reaſonable Hopes, that ſuch an Approbation may create Attention

and give Weight to the Conſiderations that are offered in this plain Diſcourſe.

HAPPY will it be for the renowned City over which you preſide, for the Kingdom in general, and for ſucceeding Ages, if, like great and good Magiſtrates, you ſhall ſeaſonably become, in any Meaſure, effectual Inſtruments in the Hand of Providence for ſtopping thoſe many, pernicious, growing Evils, which I am much afraid, however heinous or dreadful, are here repreſented but too juſtly.

It is the Honour and Happineſs, I might ſay the Duty of thoſe who are entruſted with Authority and Influence, and eſpecially where Authority and extenſive Influence are united, rather to *prevent* than puniſh Enormities. In this View, the regular and conſtant *Employment* of the *Poor*, and eſpecially of *Children*, is earneſtly recommended *; ſince in no Inſtance is *Prevention* more remarkably preferable to Remedy, even *if* a Remedy *could* afterwards be had, than in an early Care to enure Youth to Labour and Regularity.

In like manner, *to prevent* the exceſſive Uſe of Spirituous Liquors, which are now grown ſo cheap and common, is much more wiſe and beneficial, and infinitely more practicable, than to aim at curing the Diſtempers, or puniſhing and

* Sermon, Page 11, and ſeq.

and reſtraining the Diſorders and Outrages, which this particular kind of Intemperance ſo plentifully produces[b].

Any *repeated* Repreſentations from me, beſides what this Sermon contains, of the many fatal Conſequences of Spirituous Liquors as they are now diſperſed through the whole Kingdom, would be entirely ſuperfluous[c]. The Appendix contains Evidence from ſuch ſkilful, diſintereſted and upright Hands; the Proofs therein exhibited are ſo ſtrong and numerous, ſo notorious and undeniable, as muſt produce Conviction; God grant they may alſo poduce the deſirable Effect!

And what, my Lord, is the real Fact, which is thus indiſputably clear and certain? Is it not, that every Year, every Month, every Day, beholds vaſt Numbers of our Fellow-Creatures, our Countrymen and Fellow-Subjects, Men, Women, Children, debauched, ruined, deſtroyed; that Spirituous Liquors prove injurious and fatal to the Health, the Induſtry, the Morals, the Lives, the preſent Welfare and eternal Well-being of Multitudes; with the ſure Ruin of their Families; and with prodigious Detriment in various Ways to the Nation in general, not

[b] Sermon Page 14. [c] See a *Sermon* before the Societies for the Reformation of Manners; and a *Sermon* before the Society for the Propagation of the Goſpel in Foreign Parts; and *Journal of the Houſe of Lords*, Feb. 25. 1742.

not only in the Loſs of Labour and proper Circulation of the Gains of ſober Induſtry in purchaſing the ſeveral Neceſſaries and Conveniencies of Life; but by daily increaſing the Number of Perſons not meerly idle and uſeleſs, but actually hurtful to Society; whoſe Neceſſities prompt them to undertake, and theſe inflaming Spirits embolden them to perpetrate every barbarous and daring Enterprize; diſ-peopling our Country of Thouſands that might have proved uſeful Members, and preventing a Supply by greatly obſtructing the Increaſe of the Species.

Having mentioned the audacious and cruel Villainies which theſe miſchievous Liquors inſpire Men and *Women* to commit, I muſt beg Leave to appeal, and I do it in the moſt ſelemn manner, to Your Lordſhip, and the Aldermen of *London*, and I may add to his Majeſty's Juſtices in the adjacent Counties, whether *by far* the greateſt Part of all the atrocious Crimes that come in Judgment before you, either at the *Old-Baily*, or at the Sittings at *Guildhall*, or elſewhere, be not committed by Perſons moſt apparently enraged by theſe inflammatory Spirits; whether the *Criminals* themſelves, and the *Crowds that ſometimes attend them*, do not bear in their Countenance, and their whole Manner and Appearance the plaineſt and moſt ſhocking Proofs that their Blood is enflamed by the habitual Drinking of Gin. And

And is all this extreamly certain? I beſeech you then, my Lord, ſtop one Moment and look again upon the tremendous Collection of Miſery and Miſchief in one ſhort View.——Intemperance! Poverty! Villainy! Murder! Deſolation!—Good God! what an Aſſemblage is here! How dreadful and how real! Can it be read without Concern; or is it poſſible it ſhould be ſeen every Day with Indifference!

Were Murders by any other Weapon half ſo frequent, and by none are they committed more effectually; or were half the Number of Families, who might otherwiſe prove greatly uſeful to the Community, as evidently plunged in Vice and Ruin by any other Means, is it poſſible that thoſe, who are cloathed with Authority and appointed as *a Terror to evil Works*, ſhould be unconcerned Spectators of ſuch dreadful and enlarging Scenes of Wickedneſs and Miſery? Or, would the Magiſtrates of this chief City, deſervedly inveſted with great Power and Influence, quietly behold, in any other Shape, the Continuance and Increaſe of ſo much Wretchedneſs and Guilt among their Fellow-Subjects, for whoſe Welfare and Safety it is their Office and Duty to be conſtantly watchful? Common Humanity would prevent a ſingle Murder, and reſtrain the uplifted Arm that would adminiſter *one* deadly Potion, or that aimed a deadly Wea-

pon but at *one* innocent Breaſt. But what is a ſingle Murder compared to the many Thouſands that are annually ſent out of the World by a ſlow but ſure Poiſon; and among theſe how many unoffending Children and helpleſs Babes, fall pitiable Victims? In a Caſe ſo plain, Inferences are needleſs.

It does not, my Lord, admit the leaſt Doubt, that Thouſands and Ten-thouſands, after a ſhort Life of Intemperance and Ignominy, if not Violence and Outrage, have miſerably periſhed, who might have been a Strength, a Support and Credit to our Country, in their own Perſons, and in a Race of healthy well educated Children.

'Tis not for me to attempt any Eſtimate founded upon Calculations of political Arithmetic, nor fix any *Value* upon the *Lives* and Labour of theſe wretched Creatures ſo totally loſt to the Nation. Your Lordſhip, and your worthy Brethen know much better, what immenſe Sums our Country has *already* loſt by the untimely Death of ſuch large Numbers of People, as have *already* periſhed; and, *if it do not exceed Calculation*, how much more muſt be loſt, in no very long Tract of Time, to the *Nation*, and to the public *Revenue* too, in various Articles, by the Deſtruction of ſo many Inhabitants; who when engaged in ſober Induſtry,

as

as civil Prudence directs, are beyond all Diſpute in every View, the Riches and Strength, the Support and Glory of a Country. Each individual Perſon that dies an unnatural Death, whether by a quicker or a ſlower Poiſon, makes a Part of this aggregate Sum. The Advantages of every regular, induſtrious Subject, both as to his Labour and Expences, are much more conſiderable with reſpect to the National Safety, Wealth and Taxes, than from the little Attention paid to Conſiderations of this Nature ſeems generally to be apprehended: And Deſtruction of *People* is a Loſs of that kind, which no *preſent* Sums of Money will ſupply or compenſate.

If the growing Evil is ſtill neglected, and Debauchery, Vice and Murder are ſtill to increaſe; if Death and Hell are to open their Jaws yet wider, what can be hoped for hereafter?—Hereafter, when every Pretence, I cannot ſay Argument, for this Indulgence will have acquired new Force; when, like other bad Practices and bad Habits, *this* alſo will ſpread and gain Strength by Time; when private Profit will become more extenſive, and of courſe its Efforts more powerful; and when large Additions will be made to the Produce of *this* Tax. What is *then* to be expected, if no Redreſs, no Remedy is provided NOW? The ruinous Scene, that muſt in this Caſe ere long

 appear,

appear, is too plain to need Deſcription, and too dreadful to be looked upon without the utmoſt Grief and Horror!

Whatever Reaſons might prevail for making an Experiment of the preſent Method, the Conſequences of this Trial are now well known and too ſenſibly felt; or whatever Neceſſities might intervene in the Progreſs of an expenſive War; theſe Conſiderations ſubſiſt no longer: And the Reduction of Intereſt upon the National Debt is become a Circumſtance of great Weight.

The *Intereſt* of the Debt for which this Duty was mortgaged, is *now* reduced *One-eighth*, and in a few Years will be reduced *One-fourth*. A *leſs* Produce therefore from this Duty upon Spirits will be fully ſufficient to ſatisfy the Intereſt of the Debt. And if we ſhould be ſo happy as to ſee the Conſumption of theſe now very low-priced Spirits conſiderably leſſened; a *greater* Duty upon a *leſs* Quantity will produce the ſame Revenue. But if there ſhould ſtill be *ſome* Deficiency; is *that* a Conſideration of weight enough in the Views of Policy, Humanity and Religion, to balance all the grievous Evils which the wicked Practice of drinking theſe cheap Spirits ſo extenſively produces? But beſides the ſignal Bleſſings, which every Chriſtian, that engages in ſo pious, humane, and compaſſionate a

Work, may expect from HIM, *who came not to deſtroy Mens Lives but to ſave them*; there is great Reaſon to apprehend, that an ample Compenſation for *ſome* Loſs in this one Duty, would certainly ariſe in many Particulars, from the encreaſed Labour and Conſumptions of a growing, inſtead of the preſent declining Number of ſober, orderly, induſtrious Labourers, Manufacturers and Artificers; even ſuppoſing that the *encreaſed* Duties upon *Malt*, Hops, *&c.* ſhould make no Amends; nor any *other* proper Equivalent could *poſſibly* be deviſed. For, permit me to obſerve, my Lord, that the View is by much too narrow and contracted, if no other Object is looked at, but the growing Produce of *one* ſingle Duty; or, *poſſibly* the Sale of ſome damaged Corn.

How many thouſand Conſumers of the general Product and Manufactures of the Kingdom are annually *killed*; and of courſe all the Benefit that would have ariſen from that whole Number and from their Offspring, certainly loſt to the *Nation*, and to the *Revenue* too for ever!

And how many Commodities, and how many Utenſils does this pernicious Gin ſupplant or ſupply the Place of, to *thoſe* Wretches addicted to it, who *as yet* crawl about, a public Nuſance? How much leſs Bread-corn, Malt, Hops; how much leſs Meat of all kinds; how much leſs

Cloaths, both Linnen, Woollen and Leather, *&c. &c. &c.* do theſe beſotted, miſerable Creatures conſume than an equal Number of ſober and laborious Subjects of the ſame Rank? Look in upon the *Dwelling* of a regular induſtrious Workman of the like Occupation with the Slaves to Gin: How many Trades have been employed to provide Cloaths and furniſh a homely, but decent and cleanly Habitation for himſelf, his Wife and healthy Children, while the noiſome and filthy Abode of Gin-drinkers, if they have any ſettled Abode at all, ſhall be void of every thing decent or even neceſſary; and no Wonder, for this intoxicating Liquor which conſumes the *little* that they earn, (and very little they do earn) does literally become their Victuals, Drink, and Cloaths; as Variety of Tradeſmen daily find by ſad Experience.

Many other Reflections muſt naturally ariſe upon this important Subject.—Bloodſhed and Slaughter, in *Europe* at leaſt, are indeed at preſent ceaſed, and open War is at an End. But are Diſputes and Contentions of another kind entirely extinguiſhed? Is there no Skill and Application employed to reſtore and ſtrengthen the *Sinews of War*, where they have been lately ſtrained and weakened? Are there no lively Conteſts for Trade, for Riches, for naval Strength, for the Increaſe of People, Power and

Revenue, by domeſtic Regulations as well as foreign Acquiſitions, enlarged Dominion and Extent of Country? Or are there no Endeavours uſed to acquire and ſecure *firſt* a civil and commercial, and *then* perhaps more eaſily a military and maritime Superiority?

Can any Period of Time, then, ever furniſh more perſuaſive Inſtruction IMMEDIATELY to *cultivate the Arts of Peace*; to promote Sobriety, Virtue, Induſtry; to encreaſe as much as poſſible the Number of laborious, regular, uſeful Subjects; *at leaſt*, to beſtow the utmoſt Application and Care to prevent the *daily Waſte* and Diminution of that great Support to every Country, and to reſtrain and ſuppreſs the Increaſe of ungovernable and furious Invaders of Life and Property.

In every ſalutary Attempt for Reformation, we have the great Bleſſing of being ſecure of the chearful Concurrence of a *moſt gracious* PRINCE, ever watchful for, ever happy in the Happineſs of his People. And in Truth without any great Degree of Foreſight, 'tis eaſy to predict, that *his Majeſty's* moſt paternal and ſeaſonable Recommendation from the Throne, "to enforce the Execution of the "Laws, and ſuppreſs thoſe Outrages and Vio-"lences which are inconſiſtent with all good "Order and Government, and endanger the

"Lives

" Lives and Properties of his Subjects," will never be carried into Execution, or have any tolerable Effect, if the lower People are ſtill allowed to diſqualify themſelves for honeſt Labour, by enfeebling their Bodies and intoxicating their Minds, and with a Fury too that is peculiar to thoſe fiery Spirits, by which they are made drunk; if a neceſſitous Wretch, eager for the enchanting Poiſon, and without much Money to procure it, can extinguiſh, for leſs than *two* Pence all Senſe of Duty, Shame or FEAR, and is ſure to find Company ready to ſuggeſt or join in the greateſt Acts of Villainy and Outrage; no *ſubſequent* Puniſhment however ſevere, or how many Subjects ſoever are put to Death, will cure theſe heinous Evils. Emboldened Wretches, prompted by Want, and inſpired by Gin, will enter upon the moſt daring and audacious Acts of Wickedneſs; deſpiſing Law and Puniſhment.

PREVENTIVE Wiſdom therefore, is the moſt natural, the moſt humane, not indeed the *moſt*, but the *only* EFFECTUAL Means to deliver us from the formidable Enormities that are daily encreaſing.

GIN *may* be kept out of the Reach of a *poor* Creature; but if once you ſuffer him to be enraged with that peſtiferous Liquor, 'tis ſpeaking to the Waves in a Storm, when you attempt by *ſubſequent* Penalties to reſtrain him from any Theft or Murder, or any other atrocious Wickedneſs,

edneſs, which a drunken Companion recommends, as the ſureſt Means to enable him to quench with freſh Supplies of Spirits, that burning Thirſt and Longing, which theſe Spirits conſtantly create.

Whether the Gentlemen of the Army experienced any Difficulties in raiſing the neceſſary Recruits during the laſt War, national Prudence would not perhaps publickly enquire: It can however give no Offence to aſſert, that it certainly is of the utmoſt Conſequence, that there ſhould always be a ſufficient Number of *able-bodied* Men to bear Arms in Defence of their injured Country; and that Sobriety, Regularity, and ſtrict Diſcipline, ſhould be conſtantly preſerved; to which good Purpoſe the drinking inflammatory and intoxicating Spirits is by no means likely to contribute.

I am ſenſible the Calculation will be thought, and really is, very much too low, if, beſides thoſe who are *enfeebled* and *diſqualified* for Service, which is *no ſmall Number*, we ſuppoſe only *fifty thouſand* Perſons, who might have carried Arms when the public Safety required, to periſh by theſe deſtructive Liquors, in the Courſe of ten Years. And who can ſay that in leſs than half that Space of Time, the Religion, the Liberty, the very Being of this free and Proteſtant Kingdom may not depend upon, may not be loſt for the want of half that Number of

able

able Men in a Day of Battle! Will the Advance of *one* Tax, even though in no wiſe balanced by numerous Loſſes upon other Articles; will this *Price of Blood* make any Recompence for the Loſs of ſo many Lives, or ſupply that moſt important of all DEFICIENCIES, the Want of Men to fight for their injured or invaded Country?

How oddly extravagant and monſtrous would the Propoſal appear, if any Power with whom we were actually engaged in War, as the ſureſt Method of preſerving their own Forces and deſtroying the Enemy, ſhould offer twice the Produce of the Duties upon Gin, for the avowed Liberty of poiſoning half the Number of *Britiſh* Subjects able to bear Arms, which this liquid Fire, beyond all Denial, annually burns up and conſumes: And yet, the Loſs and Injury to the Nation is the very ſame, by whatever Hand the People are deſtroyed; or whether the poiſonous Potion is prepared in an *Engliſh* or a foreign Alembic; with this only Difference, that in the preſent Method of Slaughter, our Enemy would ſave the Expence, and yet derive the ſame Advantage from diminiſhing the Number of our fighting Men.

Unhappy *Britain* and undone for ever! If the boaſted Wiſdom of the preſent enlightened Age, even in a Time of public Peace and Tranquillity, can only raiſe Supplies for national Service, by

by murdering its Inhabitants and leſſening Trade in numberleſs Branches! 'Tis indeed very true, that there is no poſitive Law, no formal Injunction, to commit theſe numerous Murders. But yet it is as true, that whatever Indulgence is allowed in Caſes leſs atrocious, in the Death of a Subject the Law conſiders every Perſon concerned as *Principal*, and does not even admit of *Acceſſaries* in Murder: Nor is it leſs certain, that *Connivance* in Caſes of this Nature is *Encouragement*, according to the allowed Maxim, *qui non prohibet, jubet*: The Sword of Authority is not borne in vain; and it is the great End and Deſign of Government to preſerve *Life*, as well as Property; and with this View, to puniſh, reſtrain, and, if poſſible, extinguiſh Wickedneſs of every kind: And the more enormous and extenſive any Vice becomes, Theft, for Example, in the public Streets, or private Houſes, or Forgery, or *Murder*; the *more* ſerious and earneſt Endeavours are in all ſuch Caſes juſtly called for to diſcourage and ſuppreſs the growing Evil.

Is the Loſs of a ſingle Subject by Murder, or is a ſingle Robbery made capital and actually puniſhed with Death? And is it of no Conſequence? Is it below all Attention and Regard, if Thouſands of Lives are every Year deſtroyed; and the Public defrauded of the manifold Ad-

vantages, all the Riches and Strength, that would ariſe from the Multitudes of its loſt Subjects? The antient Precaution *Ne quid detrimenti capiat Reſpublica* is a primary Conſideration in every well ordered State: And if any Species of Liquor, tho' perhaps ſomewhat ſlower in the Operation, does yet prove as pernicious and fatal as infected meat or infected Goods, is there not the ſame Reaſon in true Policy, and the ſame Juſtice to the Community, to lay Reſtraints upon *liquid*, as upon *ſolid* Poiſons?

To ſay,—"What can be done? Alas! the People will have this liquid Poiſon," is one of the moſt *dreadful* and moſt *fatal* Declarations that can poſſibly be made, not only as it is contrary to the fundamental Principles upon which Communities ſubſiſt, and deſtroys Government itſelf, by transferring to the inconſiderate *Will* and Pleaſure of the Multitude, that Power and Authority, which belong *only* to *Law* and the civil Magiſtrate; but alſo as ſuch deſponding Lamentations, whether ſincere or not, entirely diſcourage that *ſtrict* Attention, that *active* Vigilance which ſhould be *conſtantly* employed to reſtrain and aboliſh any Vice, that is ſo extreamly pernicious in all Reſpects. Suppoſe the Populace *enflamed* againſt the preſent Diſtribution of *Property*, and diſcovering by outrageous Overt-Acts, the ſtrongeſt *Inclination* to bring it nearer

to an Equality, and *encouraged* herein by *foreign* Aſſiſtance; would it be thought a tolerable Excuſe for ſuffering their *Will* to prevail, meerly becauſe they are *eager* for this Change, and may find ſome *preſent Gratification* from a new Allotment; when Reaſon and public Utility ſo loudly declare againſt any ſuch Indulgence?

If there be any conſiderable Power in *Europe*, that looks from the Continent with an Eye of Envy upon this great Iſland, which perhaps our Induſtry and Virtue might eaſily excite; what Grief and Indignation would ariſe in every *Engliſh* Breaſt, ever to ſee that Envy changed for Pity and Contempt, exulting with too reaſonable a Satisfaction, and a ſort of triumphant Complacency, very naturally derived from the Continuance of this ſore Deſtruction among us, that with a ſpeedy Ravage is accompliſhing *their* Wiſhes, by daily waſting *our* Strength and diminiſhing *our* Numbers!

But this, my Lord, I truſt can never be our unhappy Lot: The Wiſdom, the Policy, the Virtue, the Reſolution of this Country can never ſink ſo low, as to be unable or unwilling to contrive, or dare to execute a Scheme of Deliverance from Deſtruction ſo certain and ſo apparent.

In order to accompliſh this moſt deſirable Deliverance, it may not perhaps be requiſite,

that the whole Art of diſtilling Spirits ſhould be entirely aboliſhed; or the Door opened wider than at preſent for the pernicious Introduction of foreign Spirits that pay no Duty. It muſt be acknowledged, that Reaſons of ſome Weight are offered againſt totally deſtroying the Diſtillery; but yet, unleſs the Diſtilling Trade come under ſome *effectual* Regulations, and the vending in ſo many Places, at ſuch extreme low Prices, ſuch prodigious Quantities of thoſe ſpirituous Liquors, which in poiſonous Streams now overflow the Land, be *really* reſtrained; whatever becomes of the *Britiſh* Diſtillery, whether *that* be, or be not deſtroyed—the *Britiſh* Nation certainly is deſtroyed.

Far from *Encouraging*, it is one eſſential Part of this neceſſary Reformation *to reſtrain*, and if poſſible, ſuppreſs the infamous and daring Practice of SMUGGLING, big with ſo many Evils in Times of *War*, as well as Times of *Peace*. 'Tis impoſſible (for *me* at leaſt) to reflect upon this Subject, and not lament with deep Concern, the *late Death* of a NOBLEMAN, not more diſtinguiſhed by his high Rank, than by his many excellent and amiable Qualities: The Bravery, Benevolence, and Love to his Country, which always adorned his Mind, excited this noble Perſon, totally regardleſs of the Danger or Fatigue, to bring to public Juſtice ſome of the moſt enor-

mous Offenders in the Smuggling Way; who, hardened in that bold and outrageous Practice, and defying Law and Government, had advanced to the utmoſt Lengths of ſavage Brutality, and ſhocking Murder.

'Tis needleſs to be more particular, or ſay how great a Loſs His Family, His Friends, His Country have ſuſtained, in this affectionate, beneficent, brave, and truly great Man; who had moſt juſtly acquired a Regard and Eſteem, as unconfined and univerſal, as was the Benevolence and Compaſſion of the open and generous Heart of the DUKE OF RICHMOND!

But I muſt proceed; unleſs theſe bold and flagrant Inſults upon Law, Juſtice and Government, be effectually prevented, any other Remedy muſt prove imperfect; for though ſome Difference may ariſe in the interior Parts of the Kingdom, yet the preſent Miſchief will certainly continue near the Shore, if all the Coaſts of *Britain* can be ſupplied with cheap Spirits from Abroad that pay no Duty.

The preſent Methods for ſtopping theſe Enormities, it is much to be feared, are by no means ſufficient and effectual: Nor will Decency or Abilities permit me to preſcribe ſuch as may promiſe better Succeſs. Very eminent and able Judges of theſe Matters have been of Opinion, that much might be done towards removing

ing this great Evil, if beſides puniſhing with Death, poor, inferior Inſtruments; the impartial Hand of Juſtice were regularly and conſtantly to extend itſelf to the *wealthy* Promoters and Support of this fraudulent and miſchievous Traffick; and a Puniſhment, in ſome Degree, proportioned to the manifold Damage the Nation ſuffers, were invariably inflicted upon thoſe Perſons, whoſe Subſtance not only builds the Veſſels, and purchaſes the Cargo, but likewiſe *ſeduces*, maintains and encourages the Under-Agents in this Scheme of Fraud and Outrage. An Inſtance we have at the very laſt Execution, *Dec.* 30, 1750, in the Account of *John Watling*, *aged but* 25, who then ſuffered Death for aiding and aſſiſting, with divers other Perſons, in landing and running Goods, liable to pay Duty, &c. which is as follows—" That he " was bred up to Huſbandry by his Parents and " lived with them, and went out to *Day-La-*" *bour* in the Neighbourhood, for *many* Years, " and was looked upon as a *quiet*, *ſober* Fellow; " but as the Itch of being concerned in the " Smugglers Trade is very catching in that " Neighbourhood [*Budſdal* in *Suffolk*,] he at " length became one, and was employed as a " Rider, in fetching, and carrying run Goods. " He was an active, handy, *young* Fellow, and

" ſo never wanted for Employ; and as it was " a Buſineſs that brought in *greater Gains*, and " eaſier than what he was firſt bred to, he grew " fond of it, and was ready upon all Occaſi- " ons." 'Tis extreamly natural to enquire *who* ſeduced this poor young Fellow by this *greater Gain*, and what *they* have ſuffered?

Another Expedient has been alſo thought of; the encreaſing ſtill further the Number of ſmall Veſſels to cruiſe upon our Coaſts, as Occaſion ſhall require; and of a Size and Make beſt fitted to purſue the Smuggling Boats and Cutters into the Creeks and Shoals which they reſort to; and employing in this Service, a proper Number of a moſt brave and uſeful Order of Men, the Britiſh Sailors, under *that* Direction which ſhall be moſt conducive to ſecure the great End of the Appointment.

Whether theſe or ſeveral other Schemes will prove abſolutely effectual, it would be highly improper to paſs any Judgment.

The Opinion however ſeems very general, that in order to prevent the many terrible and increaſing Miſchiefs ariſing from the exceſſive Uſe of ſpirituous Liquors, *two* Expedients are abſolutely neceſſary; the *one* is raiſing the Price of home-made Spirits, which are now purchaſed at an incredibly ſmall Expence; the *other* preventing, in a great Meaſure at leaſt, the illegal

Importation

Importation of foreign Spirits, by *encreasing* in *every* Way, at *Sea* and on *Shoar*, the Difficulty and Hazards of carrying on that moſt deteſtable and pernicious Practice, contrary to the Principles of true Policy and true Religion, which requires every Man to render *Cuſtom to whom Cuſtom* is due, and *Tribute to whom Tribute.*

In a Caſe of ſuch immenſe Importance to the Preſervation of numberleſs Lives of *Britiſh* Subjects, and to the Welfare and Safety of the Nation itſelf; where the preſent and future Happineſs of Millions is concerned, in this and ſucceeding Generations; where an Evil already ſo very extenſive is daily enlarging its baneful Progreſs; and with a Poiſon peculiarly venomous, gnawing the very *Vitals* of a trading Nation, by ſpreading largely its ſad Infection in Towns and Villages engaged in *Manufactures*, where *Induſtry* and *Temperance* are ſo peculiarly *eſſential*, if any Product of *Britiſh* Labour is to appear at foreign Markets: In a Caſe where ſuch Variety of Miſchief, perſonal and public is ſo very conſpicuous; where undoubtedly the Well-being, moſt probably the very Being of our Country and Conſtitution are at Stake, in Circumſtances ſo juſtly alarming, where the Danger is ſo great and ſo manifeſt; *Neglect*, or *Deſpondency* can only haſten and compleat our Ruin.

Try

Try every Method of Cure; leave no one probable Expedient unattempted; each Effort may produce ſome good Effect: Go on; ſtill go on, till at laſt ſome one Regulation or other, perhaps ſeveral in Conjunction, may happily, with God's Bleſſing, accompliſh the deſirable Reformation, and put a ſtop to this devouring Peſtilence, and all the Wickedneſs and Violence and Miſchief it produces; and bleſs our Country with Thouſands and Ten Thouſands of ſober, induſtrious, happy People!

In a Caſe, my Lord, of this apparent *Neceſſity*, the Difficulties which heighten the Merit of the Enterpriſe, do at the ſame time call more loudly for Zeal, Reſolution and Diſpatch. In one plain Word, ſomething muſt be done, and *ſpeedily* too; or this Nation is certainly undone. Where the Dilemma is ſo intereſting and ſo dreadful, no Degree of Earneſtneſs and Warmth can need an Apology.

'Tis more than probable, this may be the laſt Struggle between Life and Death, the laſt Gaſp of dying Multitudes; and that the Body politic, notwithſtanding the *fallacious* Appearance by a diſproportioned Reſort of People from all Quarters to the Metropolis, muſt gradually decline and ſoon periſh under this ſore Diſtemper, this ſpreading Peſtilence, if imme-

diate Relief be not *properly* and *effectually* administred *.

May the Fountain of Life and Father of Mercies, inſpire us all in our reſpective Stations with a becoming Zeal upon this great Occaſion!

I am, MY LORD,

With great Reſpect for Your Lordſhip,

and the Government of the City,

Your Lordſhip's

Moſt Obedient Humble Servant,

ISAAC WORCESTER.

* How prodigious a Waſte this is upon the *Kingdom*, to the Amount of many hundred Thouſands, has been lately demonſtrated in a very accurate and uſeful Treatiſe, by *Corbyn Morris*, Eſq; entitled, *Obſervations upon the paſt Growth, and preſent State of the City of* London. In this ſkilful and curious Performance, in which are contained many important Reflections of a more general Nature, the Reader will have the melancholy Satisfaction to obſerve, that the foregoing Obſervations, and the Calculations in the following Poſtſcript, are but too fully verified.

POSTSCRIPT.

SINCE the Concluſion of the foregoing Pages, to my great Surprize I was informed, that ſome Argument or other was drawn in Favour of theſe pernicious Spirits from the *Bills of Mortality*, I thought it incumbent upon me to examine the real Fact from thoſe authentic Accounts annually publiſhed, by the Company of Pariſh-Clerks, which, tho' not *exactly* accurate, yet, when compared with *themſelves*, one Year with another, muſt be ſuppoſed *equally* juſt.

The Fact then ſtands thus;

The CHRISTENINGS were no more in the Year

1748, than	—	14,153
1749,	—	14,260
1750,	—	14,548

This at a *Medium* amounts to 14,320 *per Ann.*

But if we look to *preceding* Years the *Chriſtenings* are *much more* numerous; for in

The Year 1731, the Chriſtenings were		17,830
1732,	— —	17,788
1733,	— —	17,465

The Medium of theſe 3 Years is 17,694

The *annual Difference* then in this *ſhort* Tract of Time is 3,374 Chriſtenings!

But if we go ſtill a little farther back, the Caſe will appear yet more evident and glaring.

The pernicious Practice of drinking theſe deſtructive Spirits began to be more frequent and extenſive about the Year 1722; and the Chriſtenings near that Time ſtand thus

1723,	—	19,203
1724,	—	19,370
1725,	—	18,859

From that Time to the preſent, the Decreaſe, with ſome little Variations, has been very *gradual*, and in this View it now amounts to near 5,000 Chriſtenings leſs than in the Year 1723.

What an amazing Loſs is this to be annually ſuſtained in *thoſe* Pariſhes, and among *thoſe* People *only*, who are re-

giſter'd by the Company of Pariſh Clerks! More than the *one fourth* of the whole Number, every Year!

This Proportion will carry on our melancholy Thoughts with ſome Degree of *Certainty*, to thoſe many, and ſome of them very populous, Places near the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, *not included* in the above annual Accounts of the Bills of Mortality; as for Example, *Camberwell*, *Chelſea*, *Deptford*, *Greenwich*, *Marybone*, *Pancras*, *Paddington*, *Kenſington*, *Hampſtead*, *Highgate*, &c. and will at the ſame Time enable us to frame a *proportional* Calculation of the terrible Havock and Deſtruction of the human Species, made by theſe peſtilential Spirits in manufacturing Towns, and other diſtant Parts of the Kingdom; according as this fatal Poiſon appears to be proportionally ſpreading in thoſe ſeveral Places.

In the *Burials*, as regiſter'd by the Pariſh Clerks, there is no great Difference at the different Times; thus for Example,

In 1731, there were — 25,262. In 1749—25,516.
1732, ——— —23,258. 1750—23,727.

But as to Burials I am credibly informed, that ſince a late Practice has prevailed of having no Intercourſe with the Pariſh Officers upon the *Removal* of a Corpſe, there is *no Entry* made of that very great Number which are now annually *removed* to Places near and remote; theſe not being entred with the Company of Pariſh Clerks, by whom alone the publick Account is given. And if all ſuch Deaths were added to the Number of regiſtred Burials, it would very much ſwell the Account, and occaſion a ſtill greater Diſproportion between the *preſent* Numbers of Births and Burials; for upon due Enquiry it appears that the Number of the Corpſes now carried away, is much larger than it was ſome Years ago, or than is commonly apprehended.

'Tis impoſſible, nor is it neceſſary, to be minutely exact, as to the Number of People in the City and Suburbs; it makes no conſiderable Alteration, if we take the common Calculation, and ſuppoſe the Number to be 850,000.

Then, as 17,694 Chriſtenings is to 850,000 People; ſo is 14,320—to 687,916. The Difference is no leſs

than 162,084 People, who upon this Proportion, founded on the Number of Chriſtenings, appear to have been diminiſhed, computing only from the Year 1733.

If only the *ſame* Number die from a *decreaſed* Stock; and if the *Supply* is ſo *inadequate* to the *Loſs*, it certainly becomes a Matter of very melancholy and ſerious Conſideration. The ſame ſad Truth might be confirmed by various other Circumſtances, which I will not enter into.

But to avoid all little Cavils, and the *ſuppoſed* Operation of *other* Cauſes, which it is extremely difficult to aſſign in a *Deſtruction* ſo exactly *coæval* with Gin, and which has manifeſtly *encreaſed*, as the Uſe of *that* pernicious Liquor has *encreaſed*; ſuppoſe inſtead of a Decreaſe of near 5,000, we only reckon 3,500. This Abatement will more than account for every *other* poſſible Cauſe of the Decreaſe; and this *reduced* Account leaves the Nation under the deplorable Circumſtances of loſing in *one* Diſtrict, more than 10,000 every three Years, even ſuppoſing theſe conſuming Flames did not continue, as they have undoubtedly hitherto continued, with *encreaſing* Devaſtation, to burn up the Human Race.

This *exceſſively* large Allowance is made, not becauſe there appear any Reaſons for it; but effectually to cut up by the Roots all frivolous Cauſes of the Diminution, that might be aſſigned, in order to weaken or ſet aſide the juſt Concluſion, that would demonſtratively ariſe even from Half this important *annual* Loſs. And if the *late War* ſhould (as is very natural) be thought of upon this Occaſion; I beg it may be obſerved, that beſides the Neceſſity of employing every proper Method to *repair* the Loſs of People *then* ſuſtained, it appears that in the Year 1724, the Number of Children Chriſtened was 19,370; but ſince that Time, as this Peſtilence of Gin has ſpread, the Number of Chriſtenings has been leſſened; and in ſuch Manner, that in NO *one* Year ſince, the Chriſtenings have ever amounted to 19,000: But, on the contrary, in Times of *Peace*, as well as War, have *gradually*, with ſmall Variations, continued to *decreaſe*. Thus, in the

Year 1734, *i. e.* in Ten Years, they were reduced from 19,370 to 17,630. And, ſince that Year, the Chriſtenings have never once reached 17,000. But, in the Year 1743, they were reduced to 15,050. And ſince that Time, notwithſtanding the Peace, and the *large Diſbandments* conſequent thereupon, the Chriſtenings have never ariſen to 15,000—But *(I repeat it again)* in the Year 1724, they amounted to 19,370! And in one ſhort View, the Matter ſtands thus.—

In the Year 1680, the Chriſtenings, within the Bills of Mortality, were no more than ——— 12,747

From which Number, in 1700, they roſe to 14,639

And, more remarkably, in the Year 1712, notwithſtanding Queen ANNE's *long War*, they were advanced to 15,660

From that Time they continually encreaſed till the Year 1724, when they amounted to no leſs than — 19,370

But from *that* Year, when the Uſe of Spirituous Liquors became ſo common, as to occaſion a publick Repreſentation from the College of Phyſicians the Year following, *inſtead* of *encreaſing* as formerly, they have continually *decreaſed*, 'till they are *now* reduced, at a Medium for the three laſt Years, to ——— ——— 14,320

So that the Year 1750 produced *fewer* Chriſtenings than the Year 1700!

Poſſibly the Caſe of the CITY OF PARIS may convey ſome uſeful *Inſtruction*, it certainly conveys very full *Evidence* of the happy Effects of the *Police* and Sobriety which are maintained in that populous Place.

The reſpective Accounts for the laſt Year ſtand thus,

PARIS	—	19,035	Chriſtenings.
LONDON	—	14,548	
Difference		4,487	
LONDON	—	23,727	Burials.
PARIS	—	18,084	
Difference		5,643	

So

So that *Paris* has more Chriſtenings — 4,487
——— fewer Burials — 5,643

Difference upon both Articles *this* Year 10,130!

Again; In PARIS, notwithſtanding the prodigious Reſort of grown People, from the Provinces of *France* and all other Parts of *Europe*, *Nunneries*, *&c.* the *Supply* by Chriſtenings *exceeds* the *Loſs* by *Burials* — 951

In LONDON, the Caſe is unhappily *inverted* and the *Loſs* by Burials *exceeds* the Supply by Chriſtenings *as many* THOUSANDS, viz. — — 9,179

N.B. The Number of Foundling Children, receiv'd into the Hoſpital of PARIS this Year was, — 3,785

Mr. *Maitland* in his *Hiſtory of* London, p. 548, has given an Account for nine Years (1728—1736) of the Chriſtenings and Burials at PARIS.

The Medium of *Chriſtenings* for that Period is, 18,688
——— of *Burials* — — 17,804

More *Chriſtenings* than *Burials* — — 884

The *melancholy* View of the *ſame* Events at LONDON for the ſame Period (1728—1736) is quite the *Reverſe*, for the Medium of *Burials* is, ——— 26,591
——— of *Baptiſms* ——— 17,211

More *Burials* than *Baptiſms* every Year — 9,380!

And what is an additional Misfortune, the Chriſtenings *ſince* that Time, as has been obſerved, have greatly *decreaſed*, and do not *now* amount to 15,000.

As *all* the *Chriſtenings* in *London* are not regiſtered, ſo neither are *all* the *Burials*: For Example; ſeveral Hundreds are buried every Year in one Place only, *viz. Bunhill-fields-Burial-Ground*, not inſerted in any Pariſh Regiſter, or brought into this Account. And Mr. *Maitland*, in his *Hiſtory of* LONDON, (Page 537) computes the whole Number of theſe Burials to be 3,038 in one Year in the *Sixty-four* Burial Places in and near *London*, not included in the annual Bills of Mortality.

N.B. The above Account of the Deſtruction of the Human Species, relating only to Children under *Five* Years of Age, is *excluſive* of ALL that *prodigious* Number of *Engliſh* Subjects *above that Age*, who continually die by the ſame Cauſe.

Theſe Calculations are not offered, as drawn up with *Mathematical* Certainty, but only, in a *general* Way, and upon comparing ſimilar Accounts together.

But even *ſuppoſe* there were *ſome* Increaſe *upon the whole* throughout the Kingdom, notwithſtanding the dreadful annual Waſte and Havock in the Metropolis (and perhaps ſome *other* Places) which according to a Calculation made by the ſkilful Mr. *Morris* *, has amounted to above *half a Million of People*, excluſive of their Offſpring, ſince 1688; yet if this *ſuppoſed* Increaſe in *Britain* is, in Proportion, *greatly inferior* to the Increaſe in another Country, the important Diſadvantage ariſing from a *comparative*, tho' not abſolute, *Decreaſe* is very apparent. For Example, if 10,000 Couple of Men and Women ſhall in *one* Nation produce 20,000 Children, who grow up to Manhood; but in the *other*, the ſame Number of Men and Women, of like Condition, ſhall produce but 14,000, who arrive at Man's Eſtate; ſuch an *Increaſe* of People, in the well regulated Community, muſt give a *growing* Superiority of Strength, and Riches, and Power, in a Degree proportioned to the Difference of the increaſed Numbers in each Country. How great that Difference muſt be in the preſent different State of *Police* or *civil Order* in this Country and *another*, may well deſerve the moſt ſerious Conſideration and timely Attention!

In the above Light, the *groſs* Evidence, without regarding every minute Circumſtance, is very ſufficient to prove *a great* Diſproportion

* See Page 15, of the before-mentioned "Obſervations on the paſt Growth "and preſent State of the City of *London*, &c. by *Corbyn Morris*, Eſq;" where it is juſtly obſerved, that theſe vaſt Recruits from the Country "have all been the "*Flower* of it, in the Prime of their Years, and in full Poſſeſſion of their beſt "Activity and Vigour." The Detriment to the Nation, beſides the actual Loſs of People, he calculates at no leſs *than fifty Millions Sterling*. And adds very properly (pag. 17.) the *Loſs of* PROGENY, from the People deſtroyed, and thereupon concludes in theſe Words, "The Loſs, within the Memory of Thouſands "living at preſent, of no leſs than *ſix hundred Thouſand* People, who might now "in themſelves and their Children have ſubſiſted in this Nation, will, at length "be viewed with Horror and Amaſement; a Loſs wholly owing to the continual, "Deſtruction of *Infants* and *Adults* in this Slaughter-Houſe of *London*."

portion in the Increaſe and Decreaſe of People in the different Cities, as Sobriety and Regularity have reſpectively greater or leſs Influence; and give a clear View, what prodigious Reſources for *Manufactures* and *Commerce*, for *Fleets* and *Armies*, muſt continually ariſe, with great Superiority, where a *prudent* and *prolific* POLICE really takes place!

I deſire not to aggravate the Caſe. I cannot do it, and I forbear to enlarge upon many, very many, moſt melancholy Particulars; or to compute the ſhort, miſerable, uſeleſs Lives of thoſe wretched Infants, not in the preſent black Catalogue, who are brought into the World by Parents, enfeebled by theſe Spirituous Liquors; and chiefly fed, for the little Time they continue in the World, with inflammatory Spirits, which ſoon conſume a Fabric ſo very ſlight and delicate.

But to give a ſomewhat juſter Idea of the dreadful *Havock* of the *Human* Species made by theſe baneful Spirits, it may not be improper briefly to obſerve, that beſides the before-mentioned important *Annual* Loſs to the Nation, ſince the Prevalence of *Gin*, by the *Decreaſe* of near 5,000 Chriſtenings in thoſe Pariſhes *only* that are recounted in the Bills of Mortality, the Number of *Children*, not exceeding *five Years* old, who have annually died ſince the ſame moſt unhappy Æra, is *prodigious*, and appears with a dreadful *Diſproportion* upon a juſt Compariſon.

The Calculations of the learned and accurate Dr. *Halley*, will enable us with too much Certainty, to form this melancholy Compariſon. The City of *Breſlaw*, which cannot differ greatly from other Places, furniſhed the Materials for his Calculations. The annual Births *there* he ſtates at a Medium to be 1,238; of theſe, it appears by the Tables, there died in the *firſt* Year 348; and between *one* Year and *ſix* compleat, 193; ſo there remained alive, out of 1,238, after ſix Years, 697.

In LONDON the *Chriſtenings*, at a Medium for the laſt *ten* Years, have annually amounted to 14,457.

But the annual Number of Children in LONDON, who have died under *five* Years of Age, at a Medium, amounts to no leſs than 10,590!

Whereas the Proportion, even at *ſix* Years of Age, ſhould be no more than 6,317.

So that the Loſs to the Public, by the premature Death of weakly, ſhort-lived Children, in *one* Diſtrict only, without including *thoſe* Children of Gin-Drinkers, who die *unbaptized*, amounts to the aſtoniſhing Number of above *Four Thouſand two Hundred!*

And, how dreadful is the Thought, *this* Loſs is repeated every Year!

It would not be unworthy of the Magiſtrates of *London*, or of the greateſt Aſſemblies in this Kingdom, ſtrictly and *immediately* to enquire---Of all that large Number of Pariſh-Children, who for the laſt twenty Years have been committed to the Care of Pariſh-Nurſes, how *few*, how extremely few are now alive? And how theſe Children are *quieted*? —— Quieted indeed, poor, innocent, helpleſs Babes, with Drams of Gin! which ſoon put an End to their tender Lives, to the *Charge of the Pariſh*, and the Advantage that would ariſe to the Nation—— The Nation for whoſe Safety and Preſervation every upright, thoughtful Man will tremble, if ever it comes into that deplorable Condition, that not only the *preſent* Number of labouring People becomes idle, debauched, profligate, outrageous; if not only the Number of working Hands, our real Strength and Riches, is annually diminiſhed, but the prolific Faculties, which ſhould furniſh a Supply, are themſelves extinguiſhed; all which may every honeſt *Engliſhman* and good Chriſtian, ſeriouſly and ſpeedily endeavour to prevent! *Amen.*

BRITISH MUSEUM 9 NO70

JOB, CHAP. V. Ver. 16.

So the POOR *hath Hope, and* INIQUITY *ſtoppeth her Mouth.*

THESE Words contain an Obſervation made by one of the Friends of JOB, upon the Conduct of the great Ruler of the World, whoſe impartial Juſtice puniſhes the moſt artful Guilt, whilſt his Goodneſs and Mercy relieve the diſtreſſed Soul, *that thoſe which mourn may be exalted to Safety.* By this different Treatment, according to their different Character, the Afflicted receive Comfort, and the Unrighteous are ſilenc'd and reſtrain'd; *ſo the Poor hath Hope, and Iniquity ſtoppeth her Mouth.*

This Reflection, though it has not the Form, hath yet all the Force of a divine Command, as the Conduct of God Himſelf, and the Maxims of divine Government, furniſh the moſt inſtructive and moſt excellent Rules for human Behaviour: And hence the Duties ſuggeſted in the Text are not only *illuſtrated*, but ſtrongly

enforc'd

enforc'd by the Practice of the wiſeſt and beſt of all Beings.

The Words therefore, very ſuitably to the preſent Joyful and Chriſtian Solemnity, recommend

I. *Firſt*, A careful Imitation of the Divine Goodneſs, by ſhewing a compaſſionate Regard to thoſe who are really deſtitute and afflicted;—*ſo the Poor hath Hope.* And

II. *Secondly*, The Reſtraint and Correction of the Diſorderly and Wicked;—*and Iniquity ſtoppeth her Mouth.*

I. There is little Occaſion to inſiſt largely upon the *Obligations*, the *Neceſſity*, and the *Rewards* of charitable Compaſſion before this Benevolent and Chriſtian Audience, who with ſo much Credit and Comfort to themſelves, ſo much Benefit and Advantage to their ſuffering Brethren, are engag'd in almoſt every Species of neceſſary and uſeful Charity: Moreover, the important Arguments for Benevolence and Compaſſion, founded in Nature, enforc'd by Reaſon, illuſtrated by the Divine Example, and enjoined by Divine Revelation, have been ſo frequently and ſo fully urged and recommended from this Place, that I will not detain you with theſe general Topics, however weighty.

Bleſſed

Bleſſed be the God and Father of Mercies, *from whom* originally *cometh every good and perfect Gift*, for the great Succeſs that has attended the pious Endeavours of many Predeceſſors in *this Work and Labour of Love!*

Very large and extenſive is that Proviſion, which is made in this renowned Metropolis and its Confines, for the various Calamities to which frail Man is liable. Here we find ſuitable Education and proper Inſtruction for the Young and the Ignorant;—Habitations for thoſe, who have no Place to dwell in;—Food for the Hungry;—Cloaths for the Naked;—Medicines for the Sick;—proper Reception and ſkilful Relief for the Accidents and Diſtempers, to which the human Body is ſubject;—and due Care and Proviſion for thoſe, who labour under the greateſt Misfortune incident to rational Creatures, a diſorder'd Mind.

Amidſt too many Inſtances of very irregular Conduct in ſundry Reſpects, it is the Honour and Happineſs of the preſent Age, to beſtow great Attention, and adminiſter the beſt Relief to the Miſeries of Mankind, in the moſt ſkilful and moſt effectual Manner, by the wiſe and beneficial Inſtitution of Hoſpitals and Infirmaries.

Not only the *old* Eſtabliſhments have been ſupported, but *new* Foundations very neceſſary and uſeful, have been raiſed.

One

One very well known is provided for *expoſed and deſerted young Children*; — and another for the *Relief of poor lying-in married Women*, who fully aſcertain their legal Matrimony. There is another Proviſion which well deſerves Notice and Encouragement; a charitable Inſtitution, that takes Care of thoſe pitiable Objects, who are unavoidably excluded from all other Houſes of Charity, the miſerable Poor who are afflicted with that common, but dangerous, nauſeous and infectious Diſtemper, the *Small-Pox*: And alſo a Proviſion for thoſe Perſons who deſire by *Inoculation*, to receive this dangerous Diſtemper in the ſafeſt Manner, and prevent an unexpected Infection when the Body is leaſt prepared for it. A Practice which, upon large Experience, appears to have been attended with great Succeſs, and to have preſerved many Lives.

Theſe different Deſigns, all which, God knows, are but too neceſſary, have ſprung from thoſe more *antient* Foundations, of which you, *my worthy Brethren*, are the bountiful Patrons and faithful Guardians: Which new Eſtabliſhments cannot therefore fail to raiſe in your generous Breaſts that ſort of Satisfaction, which Parents feel at the increaſing Proſperity of hopeful Children. And, however theſe good Deſigns are multiplied, I can make no Queſtion, that they will conſtantly enjoy reciprocal good

Wiſhes,

Wiſhes, and the reſpective Friends of them be ready upon all Occaſions to adminiſter to each every kind Office and mutual Aſſiſtance; and the very Increaſe of ſuch Inſtitutions very much tends to preſerve and enlarge the general Spirit of Benevolence and Compaſſion.

Heartily ſorry I am to find, that *freſh Supplies* are abſolutely requiſite to the Support, Continuance and neceſſary Enlargement of thoſe ſeveral moſt excellent and uſeful Charities of more ancient Date, which are now *more immediately* under Conſideration.

The Exigencies of every Year, *far exceed* the certain *annual* Income. This important Deficiency, can only be made up by *Providential* Supplies from generous Benefactors. And for their own Sakes, and the Sake of the Poor, may the Divine Goodneſs raiſe up many ſuch!

The preſent Circumſtances of theſe Hoſpitals, and the increaſing Number of Sick and Poor, with *juſt* and *loud* Importunity, call for *freſh* and *large* Aſſiſtance. Not to mention many other Arguments; the Text powerfully ſuggeſts, that to pity and relieve thoſe who are in Diſtreſs and Affliction, is to *imitate* that heavenly Care, whereby it is declared, *the Poor hath Hope*; or in the expreſſive Words of the New Teſtament, *it is to be Followers of God as dear Children*, and *merciful as our Father in Heaven is merciful.*

The amiable Perfection of this great Original, the Excellence and Beauty of unlimited Goodneſs, if duly regarded, muſt prove a ſufficient Perſuaſive to ſtudy this Reſemblance.—The rational and delightful Reſemblance of that divine Bounty, which is *good to all*, and *whoſe tender Mercies are over all his Works.*

An Example ſo perfect, and eſpecially where we ourſelves are not the *Spectators* only, but the *Objects* of this Divine Goodneſs, may juſtly warm our Hearts, to attempt the neareſt Imitation, which human Frailty can accompliſh; to be merciful as *our Father*, our Creator, Preſerver and Redeemer, our kindeſt Friend, our conſtant Benefactor, *our Father which is in Heaven is merciful.*

The Obligations to endeavour ſuch Imitation, are very powerful and very numerous: Beſides the Fitneſs and Propriety, the ſubſtantial Honour and ſolid Satisfaction of ſtudying this high Reſemblance, it is farther inforc'd by the powerful Motives, both of *Gratitude* and *Duty*.

'Tis the Apoſtle's Argument, *be ye Followers of God as dear*, ἀγαπητοι, that is, as *beloved Children*, favoured with continual Proofs of the Divine Care and Parental Affection: Such a Reſemblance is a moſt expreſſive Inſtance of Regard and Homage, 'tis to acknowledge the Divine Authority and our filial Subjection. Be as a

Father

Father to the fatherleſs, ſays the wiſe Son of SIRACH, *and inſtead of an Huſband unto their Mother*, SO *ſhalt thou be as* THE SON *of the Moſt High.*

What Opportunities at which you ſhould rejoice, and what Demands with which you ſhould comply, there are to act under this deſirable and honourable Character of a Son of God, the Accounts now to be read ſufficiently diſcover.

[*Here the Annual Account was read.*]

In theſe excellent Foundations, you will obſerve, due Proviſion is made for the various Sorts of Diſtreſs incident to human Nature, which ſhould in a particular Manner touch the Heart of thoſe, who have reſpectively ſuffer'd any of theſe different Calamities. The Mourner, who hath loſt a tender Relation, may here ſympathize with the Fatherleſs and the Widow. Thoſe, who by any painful Diſtemper have ſpent reſtleſs Nights upon a Bed of Languiſhing, may here learn to compaſſionate their Fellow-Sufferers in the ſame Way, whoſe Anguiſh is greatly increaſed by the additional Preſſures of Poverty and Want.

He likewiſe who hath been preſerved in Health and Gladneſs, and *hath not come into Misfortune like other Folk*, may, and ought to expreſs his Gratitude by ſhewing Mercy to the

Children of that heavenly Father, whoſe Providence has lengthened out his Tranquillity, and made his Cup to run over.

But this benevolent and Godlike Temper, excellent and praiſe-worthy as it is, muſt however be regulated by the Rules of Prudence. To give without Diſtinction, and yield to every loud and importunate Solicitation, inſtead of relieving honeſt Diſtreſs, encourages clamorous Idleneſs and Vice; and of courſe muſt prove greatly prejudicial not only to the Public, but to theſe Vagabonds themſelves. And here alſo, as was obſerved, in the ſecond Place,

II. We have Divine Providence for our Pattern. *The Poor hath Hope*; —— but *Iniquity ſtoppeth her Mouth.*

With many excellent Proviſions does this renowned City abound, for the Cure and Relief of the Diſtempers and Miſeries of Mankind. Beſides theſe, the large and burthenſome Contributions by parochial Aſſeſſments, which fall with peculiar Weight upon the laborious Inhabitants of a lower Degree, amount to a prodigious Sum! No Care, no Compaſſion ſeems wanting for thoſe who actually labour under Diſtempers; and yet, whatever Proviſion is made for Objects when *actually* viſited with Sickneſs and Diſtreſs, may it not be juſtly ſubmitted

mitted to this Audience, whether ſufficient *Precaution* is employ'd to ſtop the Miſchief in the Beginning, and effectually *prevent* Poverty and Sickneſs by enforcing Induſtry, and carefully *preventing* an idle, intemperate, drunken, profligate Life, which at once waſting both Subſtance and Health, produces Want and various Diſeaſes; and, after many Enormities, haſtens Death.

As *Prevention* is unqueſtionably better than Cure, permit me to enquire whether this preventive Care will not admit of ſome Improvement; firſt, as to the *more regular Employment of the Poor*; ſecondly, the *reſtraining them from the deteſtable and pernicious Uſe of Spirituous Liquors*.

I am ſtill (as you will obſerve) purſuing the Buſineſs of this Day, and pleading for the compaſſionate and uſeful Foundations deſigned to relieve the Sick and the Diſtreſſed; for that *preventive Wiſdom* which, beſides other good Effects, diſcharges Charity of unneceſſary Burdens, muſt of courſe leave a *larger* and more comfortable Supply for ſuch pitiable Objects, whoſe Calamities are unavoidable.

How great is the Unhappineſs, how moving the Conſideration, that after the vaſt Expence this Kingdom continually ſuſtains (I fear in too many Places an increaſing Expence) that yet,

this good Work of providing for the Poor ſhould be ſo very defective; ſuch prodigious Sums ineffectual, and leave ſo many miſerable Creatures in vaſt Diſtreſs!

The preſent parochial Method, liable to many chargeable Diſputes and Litigations and ſome Abuſes, where ſmall ſeparate Diſtricts make ſeparate Proviſions, manifeſtly labours under *two* of the worſt Inconveniencies, that can poſſibly attend a Deſign of this charitable Nature; it is very *burdenſome*, and at the ſame time *greatly ineffectual* *.

The Demands of Nature muſt be ſupplied; if ſufficient Care be not taken to *oblige* and *compel* thoſe idle Wretches, with which this Metropolis and the Kingdom in general abounds, the younger Part of them eſpecially, by honeſt Induſtry to earn a Livelihood, they ſoon fall upon and grow confirm'd in Methods of ſubſiſting without Labour.

And when once they are *thoroughly* entered into the begging or pilfering Trade, as they find in themſelves no great Inclination to work, but Idleneſs grows into a Habit; ſo there are very few ſober Families deſirous to receive and employ Perſons of that looſe Character. Houſes

* See an excellent Diſſertation of Sir *Joſiah Child*'s, upon the Relief and Employment of the Poor, in his Diſcourſe upon TRADE, &c.

Houſes of Correction there are, and of great Uſe; the Number of Vagrants would, without them, be much more conſiderable and pernicious; but ſtill ſome farther Care ſeems highly neceſſary; the growing Evil, apparent in numerous bold Robberies and other outrageous Enormities, may in a little Time increaſe ſo faſt, as to get beyond the Reach of Cure. As your Prudence will ſuggeſt the moſt proper Methods to obviate this Miſchief; your Zeal, I doubt not, will put thoſe Methods into ſpeedy and effectual Execution!

Crowds of unruly People not joined to a Society, by any Bonds of Property or Intereſt, may at any unhappy Juncture overwhelm us like a Torrent.

It is very difficult to cure in grown People, Habits of Idleneſs, rooted and confirm'd by Length of Time. The Work is much more eaſy to inure *Youth* to Labour, and *train up a Child in the Way he ſhould go.*

And therefore, in a well regulated State not a ſingle Child ſhould be brought up in Idleneſs and Begging: If the Parents cannot provide for its Inſtruction in ſome Trade or uſeful Occupation; the Community ſhould ſupply that material Defect.

To diſregard poor, helpleſs young Creatures, is no leſs prejudicial to the Public, than cruel

to theſe moſt pitiable Objects, who have before them a whole Life of Guilt and Miſery, if neglected; or by ſeaſonable Care, a Life of Induſtry, Virtue and Happineſs. It may in particular well deſerve Conſideration, whether the Number of lewd, abandoned Proſtitutes, who with the Shadows of the Evening croud and infeſt your Streets, debauch the Servants, too often the Children of worthy Men, and give Occaſion to Wickedneſs, Poverty, loathſome Diſeaſes and Ruin; whether theſe pernicious Creatures, as well as the bold Invaders of Property, are not unqueſtionably owing to the ſame Neglect, the not inuring them in the early Stages of Life to ſome honeſt and induſtrious Employment.

True Policy therefore, Humanity and Religion, jointly adviſe this neceſſary Care, to prevent as much as poſſible, eſpecially in younger People, that groſs Idleneſs, which is the Fountain and Occaſion, the Encouragement and Opportunity of ſo many other Evils.

'Tis a found Dictate of civil Prudence, as well as a Precept of Chriſtianity — *if any will not work* who are capable of it, *neither let them eat.*

How numerous are the Manufactures, that *are* or *may be* carried on in this Kingdom? How various the Methods of Employment?

The Sheep of our Fields are *Mines* of Treaſure, if they are made the Materials to exerciſe our own Labour; but become the Riches of other Countries, when their Fleeces are carried abroad unmanufactured. How many other Methods are there, both in the cultivated, and uncultivated Parts of this Iſland, and now I may with pleaſure add in the OCEAN too, with which we are ſurrounded, to furniſh thoſe who are fit for Labour, with proper Work and uſeful Employment?

There are Parts of the Kingdom where Proviſion is cheap and plentiful; where the induſtrious Poor would not learn the Amuſements, the Diverſions, the Extravagance and Vices, which abound in populous Places, and of which the Confines of this great City have ſo large a Share. They might in theſe remote Countries, by conſtant Labour in ſome uſeful Manufacture, perhaps at preſent needleſsly imported, be effectually taught and continued in the honeſt Arts of Induſtry and Frugality: Leſſons not ſo eaſily learnt, where Men are ſurrounded with Examples of Luxury, Extravagance and Debauchery!

Every poſſible Conſideration therefore, of *Prudence*, *Compaſſion* and *Religion*, concur in recommending this important Article of *employing*

ploying the Poor, and engaging the *younger Part* of them eſpecially in honeſt Induſtry.

Were the firſt Attempts for this good Purpoſe attended with ſome Expence, it would be an Expence wiſely incurred, which with tolerable Care would ſoon find ample Compenſation, and prevent the much larger Expences of what can ſcarce be called *Proviſion* for the Poor: Furniſhing a young Creature capable of Labour with Food and Cloaths is by no means ſo great an Act of real Charity, as to inſtruct and inure that young Creature *of either Sex*, by Diligence and Labour to acquire its own Subſiſtence; and the earlier in Life this Inſtruction is begun, the more beneficial in all Reſpects.

Very unhappy and deplorable it is, and cannot fail to touch every rational Heart with deep Concern, that the Neceſſity is ſo great to turn our Thoughts to the *ſecond* Particular that was mention'd, the *deſtructive* and *fatal Uſe* of *Spirituous Liquors*, which conſume the *Subſtance*, the *Time*, the *Health*, the *Underſtanding* of ſo many of our Fellow-Subjects; thoſe *intoxicating*, *inflammatory*, *baneful* Spirits, which *deprave the Mind*, *corrupt the Morals*, and render the *Temper furious* and *ſavage*, ready for every audacious and wicked Enterprize; but yet have an *enticing* Quality, as they give a ſhort Warmth that ſoon evaporates, and requires a freſh

freſh Supply of the ſame pernicious Fewel; which, while it heats and enflames, conſumes the Health and Strength of the human Fabrick: And hence this odious Vice, to the prodigious Detriment of the Public, as well as the Ruin of private Perſons, becomes the moſt pernicious *Peſtilence* that ever befel this Kingdom, deſtroying in the Courſe of a few Years more Lives than *Sword*, or *Plague*, or *Famine* have ever yet deſtroyed; *leſſening* the Number of our People by daily Slaughter; leſſening their Uſefulneſs by debauching their Morals and weakening their Strength; diminiſhing and enfeebling Poſterity; and in every Reſpect both as to *Number*, *Health* and *Vigour*, *keeping down* the *Offspring* and *Breed* of the Nation.

What a *Gloom* does it caſt upon this Day of Joy and Feſtivity, to conſider that while this worthy Audience, with becoming Piety are here aſſembled in the Houſe of God, in Behalf of Charity and Virtue, ſo *many Thouſand wretched Creatures* are *now* actually employ'd in *multiplying Diſtempers*, now ſwallowing thoſe deadly Potions, that by *ſlower Degrees* indeed, but with the *Certainty of a Bullet* muſt *ſoon fatally end their Days*; thoſe *miſerable Days* which have been conſum'd in *Idleneſs*, *Intemperance* and *Wickedneſs*, to the Ruin of their *Health*, and *Subſtance*, and *Families*,—and what is

 ſtill

ſtill infinitely more dreadful, the Ruin of their *immortal* Souls!

How infectious, how ſhameleſs is this horrid Vice? nor *Women*, nor *Children* eſcape its baneful, odious Influence.

Is it poſſible, without much Pity and Concern, mixed indeed with Indignation, to behold in numerous Inſtances, that Part of the human Species, whoſe Modeſty and Gentleneſs are their proper Guard and chief Ornament, *transform'd* into thoſe frightful Spectacles of *Impudence* and *almoſt Fury*, which continually in *every Quarter of the Town*, and at *every Hour of the Day*, ſhock and offend the Sight!

And, if poſſible, ſtill more dreadful is it to ſee *Children*, *young Children*, even *Babes hanging at the Breaſt*, with thoſe *pining*, *meagre*, *haggard Looks*, that do at once declare *their* Miſery, and the horrid Guilt of their unnatural and cruel PARENTS;—*ſad Spectacles indeed!*

Relieve *your Mind*, by turning your Eyes to different Objects; View *this pleaſing Sight*, this fine Collection of modeſt, *regular* and healthy Children here preſent *, brought up and educated upon a virtuous Plan. How different the Appearance! How ſtrong the Contraſt! What humane Delight, what rational Satisfaction, is derived from ſuch a pleaſing Sight? And yet, alas! every returning Year ſees a much larger Num-

* The Children of CHRIST-HOSPITAL, &c.

Number of Poor, innocent, murdered Children; really murdered; dreadful to think of! Moſt inhumanly murdered, and with *Impunity* too, by *direful Spirituous* Liquors, *adminiſtered* or *derived* to the helpleſs Infants by thoſe Perſons, whoſe peculiar Duty it is to preſerve their tender Lives.

How affecting is the Thought! that theſe ſlaughtered Babes, under better Management, might have grown up and appeared with the ſame *Health* and *Strength* and *Vigour*,—the ſame *good Looks* and *good Diſpoſitions* as adorn this agreeable Collection of Children now before you, and might have proved as *uſeful to their Country*, as from former Experience we have Reaſon to hope theſe will do.

What *Heart would not melt*, what *Eyes would not diſſolve in Tears* at the *moving*, *melancholy*, *dreadful* Sight of ſuch a *Slaughter*, *brought into one View*,—a Slaughter much *more cruel*, and far *more extenſive* than that of HEROD! for *here* PARENTS themſelves commit the horrid Execution upon their *own* Children!

I am not *aggravating* this affecting Subject—God knows it needs no Aggravation—it ſcarce admits of Aggravation: I ſpeak from Conviction,—I ſpeak from Evidence.

The *prodigious*, dreadful Havock, made by theſe pernicious Spirits is no leſs certain, becauſe

all the *daily* Victims, *Men*, *Women*, *Children*, do not fall in our Sight, nor are buried together in one, vaſt, aſtoniſhing, and ſhameful Heap!

Alas! Public Obſervation and the Records of Pariſhes confirm the ſad and alarming Truth, with Proofs but too convincing. Many well founded Repreſentations have been made of the pernicious Effects of theſe Spirituous Liquors, both at Sea and at Land, by vigilant and worthy Magiſtrates, and other Perſons of great Knowledge, Integrity, and Public Spirit. Hear only the honeſt and diſintereſted Declaration of thoſe ſkilful and able Judges the learned *College of Phyſicians*, in their own Words, "We have, "ſay they, with Concern obſerved for ſome "Years paſt, the *fatal Effects* of the frequent "Uſe of ſeveral Sorts of *Diſtilled* Spirituous Li-"quors upon *great Numbers* of *both* Sexes, ren-"dering them *Diſeaſed*, not *fit for Buſineſs*, "*Poor*, a Burden to themſelves and Neighbours, "and too often the Cauſe of *Weak*, *Feeble*, and "Diſtemper'd Children, who muſt be, inſtead "of an Advantage and Strength, a Charge to "their Country.——This Cuſtom doth *every* "*Year increaſe*, notwithſtanding our REPEATED "*Advice* to the contrary." Thus far thoſe learned Gentlemen; and moſt melancholy it is to conſider how much this pernicious Vice hath

increaſed ſince this Repreſentation was made, and *is increaſing* EVERY Day.

My Brethren, theſe Things ought not ſo to be.

What then is to be done to ſtop, to remedy the growing Evil?——INATTENTION cannot do it; DESPAIR will never do it.—Public Communities and private Perſons, every one in his reſpective Station muſt exert his zealous honeſt Endeavours in this important Cauſe; the Cauſe of Religion and Humanity, the Cauſe of our Country, and the Cauſe of God.

Once reſolve upon the good Work—and reſolve to purſue it—with God's Bleſſing, it is half accompliſhed.

Let this great and renowned Metropolis and its preſent worthy Magiſtrates, whoſe Example will have an extenſive Influence, *immediately* begin the deſirable Reformation—Their Wiſdom, will ſuggeſt the moſt proper Methods, their Zeal and Firmneſs carry thoſe Methods into juſt Execution.

In ſuch an Undertaking, ſo *compaſſionate*, ſo *pious*, ſo *uſeful*, and ſo *abſolutely neceſſary*, the Hearts and Hands of all good Men will join them—They will want no Credit or Honour, no Comfort or Satisfaction in this World, and infinitely great will be their Reward in the World to come. *Amen!*

APPENDIX.

WHILE the foregoing Sheets were printing off, the Nation was much obliged, and I truſt will be much profited, by a learned and ſeaſonable Diſcourſe, entituled, *An* ENQUIRY *into the Cauſes of the late Increaſe of Street-Robbers*, &c. by HENRY FIELDING, *Eſq*; It is much to be wiſhed that the weighty Conſiderations therein offered, may effectually awaken Attention, where it is of the utmoſt Importance and Neceſſity it ſhould be awake. The Treatiſe itſelf has ſpread, and I hope will ſpread, ſo widely, as to render it ſuperfluous to quote many Paſſages; I ſhall therefore only mention a few, which fully confirm what has been advanced in the foregoing Pages.

P. 18. "Now, beſides the moral ill Conſequences occa-
"ſioned by this Drunkenneſs, with which, in this Treatiſe,
"I profeſs not to deal; how greatly muſt this be ſuppoſed
"to contribute to thoſe political Miſchiefs which this
"Eſſay propoſes to remedy? This will appear from conſi-
"dering, that however cheap this *vile Potion* may be, the
"*poorer* Sort will not eaſily be able to ſupply themſelves
"with the Quantities they deſire; for the intoxicating
"Draught itſelf diſqualifies them from uſing any honeſt
"Means to acquire it, at the ſame time that it removes
"all Senſe of Fear and Shame, and emboldens them to
"commit every wicked and deſperate Enterprize. *Many*
"Inſtances of this I ſee *daily*: Wretches are *often* brought
"before me, charged with Theft and Robbery, whom I
"am forced to confine before they are in a Condition to be
"examined; and when they have afterwards become ſober,

" I have plainly perceived, from the State of the Caſe, that " the *Gin* ALONE was the Cauſe of the Tranſgreſſion, and " have been ſometimes ſorry that I was obliged to commit " them to Priſon."

P. 22. " Tho' the Encreaſe of Thieves, and the De- " ſtruction of Morality; tho' the Loſs of our Labourers, " our Sailors, and our Soldiers, ſhould not be ſufficient " Reaſons, there is one which ſeems to be unanſwerable, " and that is, the Loſs of our Gin-drinkers: Since, ſhould " the drinking this *Poiſon* be continued in its preſent " Height, during the next twenty Years, there will, by that " Time, be very few of the common People left to drink " it."

There is another Diſcourſe publiſhed ſome Years ago, entituled, *Diſtilled Spirituous Liquors the Bane of the Nation; the ſecond Edition:* Which is alſo juſtly recommended by Mr. *Fielding*, and contains ſo thorough a Diſcuſſion of this important Subject with Evidence ſo convincing, that in hopes the reverend and learned Author will ſoon favour the World with a new Edition of the whole Book, I ſhall not tranſcribe particular Paſſages, however appoſite and concluſive.

His Majeſty by Royal Proclamations, the Legiſlature in the Preambles to divers Acts of Parliament, the Magiſtrates in ſundry Places, many eminent Prelates and other learned Divines, and likewiſe the learned College of Phyſicians, have repreſented in the ſtrongeſt Terms, the infinite Damage that ariſes to the Health, the Lives, the Morals, the Souls of the People, and the Increaſe of the human Species, and to good Order and Government, and the Quiet and Safety of peaceable Subjects, from the miſchievous and prevailing Cuſtom of drinking theſe intoxicating and inflammatory Spirits.

However unwilling I am to ſwell this Appendix, I cannot omit inſerting a Collection made by that judicious and vigilant Prelate the late Biſhop of *London*, (which he annexed

nexed to a *Diſſuaſive from Intemperance, &c. with a particular View to Spirituous Liquors*) containing ſeveral *publick Repreſentations* of the pernicious Effects of *Spirituous Liquors*.

I. *The great Miſchiefs of Spirituous Liquors among the* INDIANS.

IN the Books of the Society for propagating the Goſpel, mention is made of a ſelect Committee at *Lambeth*, on the 22d of *April* 1710, to conſider of the Addreſs of the *Indian Sachems* to Queen *Anne*, *&c.* and they came to the following Reſolution, among others:

" That it be recommended to the Governor of *New* " *England*, and *New York*, ſtrictly to put the Laws in Exe- " cution againſt ſelling *Rum*, *Brandy*, and other *intoxica-* " *ting* Liquors to the *Indians*, *this being the earneſt Re-* " *queſt of the* Sachems *themſelves*.

II. *In the Abſtract of the Proceedings of the Society for propagating the Goſpel*, Ann. 1715, *it is remark'd as follows:*

" AMONG the *Indians* of the five Nations, a Stop " hath been put to the ſo much expected Progreſs of the " Goſpel, under the Conduct of our Miſſion from *Eng-* " *land*, by debauching their Morals; which is imputable " to ſome of our Neighbours, in promoting Riots and " Exceſs, by the Sale of Rum ſo often prohibited; and " during which Traffick, all ſober Endeavours uſed for " their Salvation muſt be rendered utterly ineffectual."

III. *The humble Repreſentation of the College of Phyſicians in* London, *to the Houſe of Commons*, Ann. 1725.

" WE the Preſident and College or Commonalty of " the Faculty of Phyſick in *London*, who are appointed by

" by the Laws of this Kingdom to take care of the " Health of his Majeſty's Subjects in *London*, and within " ſeven Miles Circuit of the ſame; do think it our Duty " moſt humbly to repreſent, That we have with Con- " cern obſerved, for ſome Years paſt, the *Fatal Effects* " of the frequent Uſe of ſeveral Sorts of diſtilled Spiri- " tuous Liquors, upon great Numbers of both Sexes, " rendering them diſeaſed, not fit for Buſineſs, poor, a " Burthen to themſelves and Neighbours, and too often " the Cauſe of weak, feeble, and diſtempered Children, " who muſt be, inſtead of an Advantage and Strength, a " Charge to their Country. We crave Leave further moſt " humbly to repreſent, That this Cuſtom doth every " Year encreaſe, notwithſtanding our repeated Advices to " the contrary. We therefore moſt humbly ſubmit to " the Conſideration of Parliament ſo great and growing " an Evil. In Teſtimony whereof, we have this 19th " Day of *January* 1725, cauſed our common Seal to be " affixed to this our Repreſentation."

IV. *Preamble to an Act* (2 Geo. II.) *for laying a Duty upon Compound Waters, or Spirits, commonly called* Gin, &c.

" WHEREAS the drinking of *Spirits* and *Strong* " *Waters*, is become very common amongſt the People " of inferior Rank, and the conſtant and exceſſive Uſe " thereof tends greatly to the Deſtruction of their *Healths*, " enervating them, and rendering them unfit for uſeful " Labour and Service, intoxicating them, and debauch- " ing their Morals, and driving them into all Manner of " Vices and Wickedneſs; the Prevention whereof would " be of the greateſt publick Good, and Benefit; and " whereas it is found by Experience, that the great " Temptation to ſuch licentious Uſe of theſe pernicious " Liquors, is from the *Cheapneſs* thereof, *&c.*

V. *Preamble to an Act* (9 Geo. II.) *for laying a Duty upon the Retailers of Spirituous Liquors*, &c.

"WHEREAS the drinking of Spirituous Liquors "or Strong Waters is become very common, eſpecially "amongſt the People of lower and inferior Rank, the "conſtant and exceſſive Uſe whereof tends greatly to the "Deſtruction of their Healths, rendering them unfit for "uſeful Labour and Buſineſs, debauching their Morals, "and inciting them to perpetrate all Manner of Vices; "and the ill Conſequences of the exceſſive Uſe of ſuch "Liquors are not confined to the *preſent* Generation, but "extend to *future* Ages, and tend to the Devaſtation and "Ruin of this Kingdom, *&c.*"

VI. *Preamble to an Act to prevent the Importation and Uſe of Rum and Brandies in the Province of* Georgia, Ann. 1735.

"WHEREAS it is found by Experience, that the "Uſe of the Liquors called Rum and Brandies, in the "Province of *Georgia*, are more particularly hurtful and "pernicious to Man's Body, and have been attended "with dangerous Maladies and fatal Diſtempers, and, if "not timely prevented, will, in all likelihood, ruin the "ſaid Colony, and fruſtrate your Majeſty's good and fa-"therly Intentions towards ſuch of your Subjects as ſhall "go to reſide in the ſaid Province: And whereas we "your Majeſty's moſt dutiful Subjects, the Truſtees for "eſtabliſhing the Colony of *Georgia* in *America*, have "received Complaints from the Chiefs of ſeveral of the "*Indian* Nations inhabitating near to your Majeſty's ſaid "Colony, of great Diſorders amongſt them, occaſioned "by the Uſe of the ſaid Liquors, and which are brought "them by the Perſons uſing and carrying on the *Indian* "Trade: For Remedy thereof, we the Truſtees for eſta-"bliſhing the Colony of *Georgia* in *America*, humbly "beſeech

" beſeech your Majeſty that it may be enacted, and be it " enacted, That from and after the Four and Twentieth " Day of *June*, which ſhall be in the Year of our Lord " One thouſand ſeven hundred and thirty-five, no Rum " or Brandies, nor any other Kind of Spirits or Strong " Waters, by whatſoever Name they are or may be diſ- " tinguiſhed, ſhall be imported or brought aſhore, *&c.*"

And then it follows:

Which Act his Majeſty thought proper to refer to the Conſideration of a Committee of his Majeſty's moſt honourable Privy Council, who having received the Opinion of the Lords Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations thereupon, did this Day report to his Majeſty, as their Opinion, That the ſaid Act was proper to receive his Majeſty's Royal Approbation. His Majeſty taking the ſame into Conſideration, is hereby pleaſed, with the Advice of his Privy Council, to declare his Approbation of the ſaid Act; and purſuant to his Majeſty's Royal Pleaſure thereupon expreſſed, the ſaid Act is hereby confirmed, finally enacted, and ratified accordingly.

VII. *In a Preſentment of the Grand Jury of the City of* London, Ann. 1735.

" WE the Grand Jury of the City of *London*, met at " the preſent Seſſions at the *Old Bailey*, to enquire of and " preſent ſuch publick Nuſances as diſturb and annoy the " Inhabitants of the City, think it our Duty to complain " of the late ſurpriſing Increaſe of GIN-SHOPS, and other " Retailers of Diſtilled *Spirituous Liquors*, which we " have great Reaſon to apprehend (if not reſtrained) will " be attended with the moſt dreadful and laſting ill Con- " ſequences.

" To this pernicious Practice is chiefly owing.—That " our lower Kind of People are *enfeebled* and *diſabled*, " having neither the Will nor Power to labour for an " honeſt Livelihood, *&c.*

VIII. *In a Preſentment of the Grand Jury for the County of* Middleſex, Ann. 1735.

" WE the Grand Jury for the County of *Middleſex*, " taking notice of the vaſt Number of Brandy and Ge- " neva-Shops, *&c.* for the Retailing of Gin, and other " Spirituous Liquors? which being ſold at a very low " Rate, the meaner, though uſeful Part of the Nation, " as Day-Labourers, Men and Women Servants, and " common Soldiers, nay even Children are enticed and ſe- " duced to taſte, like, and approve of thoſe pernicious " Liquors ſold for ſuch ſmall Sums of Money, whereby " they are daily intoxicated and get Drunk, and are fre- " quently ſeen in our Streets in a Condition abhorrent to " reaſonable Creatures.——

" It is viſible, that by this deſtructive Practice, the " Strength and Conſtitution of Numbers is greatly weak- " ened and deſtroyed, and many are thereby rendered uſe- " leſs to themſelves as well as to the Community; many " die ſuddenly by drinking it to Exceſs; and infinite " Numbers lay the Foundation of Diſtempers which " ſhorten their Lives, or make them miſerable, weak, " feeble, unable and unwilling to work, a Scandal and " Burthen to their Country."

IX. *In a Preſentment of the Grand Jury of the* Tower Hamlets, Ann. 1735.

" WE, the Grand Jury for the Liberty of the Tower " of *London* and Precincts thereof, think it our Duty to " repreſent to this Court, the prodigious Increaſe in the " Number of Shops, and other Places, for retailing Gin " and diſtilled Liquors, and the many Enormities that are " occaſioned by its being drank by the meaner Sort of " People in this Kingdom, chiefly becauſe they can be " debauch'd at a very ſmall Expence.

" It

" It is with great Trouble that We obſerve the Num-
" ber of Gin-ſhops to multiply in every publick Street.

X. *In a Report made to the Juſtices of the Peace for the County of* Middleſex, Ann. 1735-6.

" IT is with the deepeſt Concern, your Committee
" obſerve the ſtrong Inclination of the inferior Sort of
" People to theſe deſtructive Liquors, and how ſurpri-
" zingly this Infection has ſpread within theſe few Years.
" Not only the Vicious and Immoral give into this Prac-
" tice, but thoſe alſo who to all Appearance are in other
" Reſpects ſober and regular: Not only one Perſon here
" and there in a Family, but whole Families ſhamefully
" and conſtantly indulge themſelves in this pernicious
" Practice: Fathers and Maſters, Children as well as
" Servants.——

" Your Committee proceeded to enquire, according to
" your Directions, into the Miſchiefs ariſing from the
" immoderate Uſe of Spirituous Liquors, and more eſpe-
" cially of Geneva: And theſe, to their great Concern,
" appear to be of the higheſt Nature, and moſt laſting
" Conſequences; affecting not only particular Perſons
" and Families, but alſo the Trade of the Nation, and
" the public Welfare. With reſpect to particular Per-
" ſons, it deprives them of their Money, Time, Health,
" and Underſtanding; weakens and deſtroys their natural
" Strength and Conſtitutions, and thereby renders them
" uſeleſs to themſelves, as well as to the Community.
" And when their Spirits are raiſed by drinking to Exceſs,
" they are often carried to a Degree of outrageous Paſſion,
" and become bold and daring in committing Rob-
" beries and other Offences, for an immediate Live-
" lihood.

" Farther, they who indulge themſelves in this perni-
" cious Cuſtom, are thereby rendered incapable of hard

" Labour,

" Labour, as well as indiſpoſed to it; their Health is " ruined, and their Lives by Degrees deſtroyed."

XI. *In a Royal Proclamation*, March 8, 1737; *for putting in Execution the late Act againſt retailing of Spirituous Liquors*; the Introduction is as follows:

" WHEREAS, in order to put a Stop to the *per-* " *nicious* Practice of common and exceſſive drinking of " *Brandy*, *Geneva*, and other *Spirituous Liquors*, ſo de- " ſtructive of the Health, Morals, and Induſtry of our " Subjects, and ſo manifeſtly injurious to the publick " Peace and Tranquillity; an Act of Parliament was " made, *&c.*"

XII. *In a Letter of the Lords of the Privy Council, written by his Majeſty's Command, to the* Cuſtodes Rotulorum, *of the ſeveral Counties, and bearing Date*, March 31, 1743; it is ſet forth.

" That the *exceſſive drinking of ſpirituous Liquors* has " not been prevented by former Acts of Parliament, but " ſtill continues the ſame; *and it is there complained of*, " As a Cuſtom deſtructive of the Health, Morals, and " Induſtry of his Majeſty's Subjects, and to the Peace of " his Kingdom."

The pious and benevolent Dr. HALES of *Teddington* (Author of, *A friendly Admonition to the Drinkers of Brandy and other Spirituous Liquors*) whoſe faithful and ſkilful Experiments and Obſervations are ſo well known and approved in the learned World, has upon this Occaſion favoured me, for the Uſe of the Public, with the following Diſſertation,

On the Unwholſomeneſs and Deſtructiveneſs of fermented, diſtilled, Spirituous Liquors.

THE Deſtructiveneſs of fermented, diſtilled, Spirituous Liquors is now become ſo flagrantly enormous, by ſpread-

ing

ing their baneful Influence far and wide, and making yearly farther and farther Devaſtations, both of the Lives and Morals of Mankind; and even debaſing the Breed of Man: That it behoves all who have any Bowels of Pity for their Fellow-Creatures, to do their beſt to *with-hold* and deter them from it.

That eminent Phyſician Dr. *Hoffman*, in his Seven Rules for preſerving Health, expreſsly cautions againſt the Uſe of fermented, diſtilled Spirituous Liquors. " Becauſe, he ſays, " they are above all things moſt unwholſome, becauſe " cauſtick, burning Spirits, by inflaming the Solids, and " coagulating and thickening the Fluids, cauſe Obſtructions, " which bring on many fatal Diſeaſes, ſuch as Hectick " Fevers, Jaundices, Dropſies, *&c.* whereby Multitudes " are daily and yearly deſtroyed. And alſo that they rot " the Intrails, ſuch as the Liver, Stomach and Bowels, as " is evident, as he obſerves, not only by opening the Bodies " of thoſe who are killed by drinking them; but alſo by " what is obſerved in *Germany*, from the Effects, which the " cauſtick, fiery, remaining Waſh of Diſtillers, has on the " Guts of Hogs, which are thereby ſo rotted, that they " cannot make Hogs-Puddings with them. And the Fleſh " of ſuch Hogs is hereby ſo much tenderer, that it will " not keep by Salting, ſo well as the Fleſh of other Hogs " will do."

Dr. *Cheyne*, in his Eſſay of *Health and Long Life*, ſays, " People who have any Regard to their Health and Lives, " ought to tremble at the firſt Cravings for ſuch *poiſonous* " Liquors.

" The Maladies begot by them bring forth Neceſſity " upon Neceſſity of *Drams* and *Gills*, 'till at laſt a kind of " *Dropſy*, nervous *Convulſions*, a nervous *Conſumption*, or a " colliquative *Diarrhœa*, or *Flux*, if not a *Fever* or a " *Frenzy*, ſets the poor Soul free.

" This bewitching Poiſon heightens and enrages all their " Symptoms and Sufferings ever afterwards, excepting the " *few* Moments after the taking it down."

It is the well-known Obſervation of the Dealers in Hair for Wigs, that they can diſtinguiſh the Dram-drinkers Hair by the Touch, finding it dry, harſh, and dead-ended, and unfit for Uſe. And in the ſame Manner theſe Drams ſpoil the Stomach and Bowels, the Liver and Lungs, and the whole Body of thoſe unhappy Perſons addicted to them.

It is alſo found, that theſe pernicious Drams not only alter the Quality, but alſo by their drying and corroſive Power, leſſen the Quantity of Hair: And what is a melancholy Proof of the great Prevalence of this wicked Practice, there is now ſo much leſs Hair to be bought among the lower People, that our Hair-Dealers are obliged to ſend Money Abroad to purchaſe *French* and other foreign Hair. So ſurpriſingly extenſive is the Miſchief of Gin-drinking.

I have found, by putting raw Fleſh into ſeveral Sorts of diſtilled Spirits, *viz.* Brandy, Rum, Arrack, *&c.* that they all, in a like manner, harden the Fleſh by their pernicious burning cauſtic Salts, which are made ſuch by the Action of Fire on them in Diſtillation, in the ſame manner as Salt-Petre, from a mild, wholeſome Subſtance, is, by the Action of Fire in Diſtillation, made one of the rankeſt Poiſons; its Salts being by that means formed into ſubtile Darts and Spears, which tear not only all animal Subſtances in Pieces, but alſo the hardeſt and moſt ſolid Metals and Minerals. And accordingly, I have been informed by Diſtillers here, and by Planters in *America*, that the more of the Action of Fire theſe Spirits have undergone, ſo much the more fiery they are.

It is pretended that Drams comfort, warm, and defend from the ſevere Cold to which Men are ſometimes expoſed, which is probably in a great meaſure true of thoſe who are much habituated to drink them; the Blood of ſuch being thereby ſo much impoveriſhed, that many of the habitual Drinkers of Drams are cold and lifeleſs, even in the midſt of Summer, without frequent freſh Draughts of it. But on the other hand, how much abler are ſober Perſons to endure

Cold

Cold and Hardſhips; their vital Heat not being extinguiſhed with Intemperance, does, by its kindly genial Warmth, more effectually ſecure them from the Inclemency of Weather, than the falſe Flaſh of Heat, which a Dram gives. Beſides, it is well known, that Men did not periſh in the coldeſt Countries for want of Drams, when they were not to be had.—Of the undoubted Truth of this, Captain *Ellis* gives a full Proof, in the Account of his Voyage to *Hudſon's Bay*, p. 199. where he obſerves, that the Natives on the very cold Coaſt of that Bay, to whom the *French* act in a wiſer and better Manner, than to ſell them diſtilled Spirituous Liquors, are tall, hardy, robuſt, and active. Whereas thoſe of them that are ſupplied with *Drams* from the *Engliſh*, are meagre, ſmall, indolent People, hardly equal to the Hardſhips of the Country, and ſubject to many Diſorders.

It may not be improper here to inſert a Panegyrick on Temperance, worthy to be recorded in every one's Memory, " O! Temperance! Thou Support and Attendant " of other Virtues! Thou Preſerver and Reſtorer of " Health, and Protractor of Life! Thou Maintainer of " the Dignity and Liberty of rational Beings from the " wretched inhuman Slavery of *Senſuality*, *Taſte*, *Cuſtom*, " and *Example!* Thou Brightner of the Underſtanding " and Memory! Thou Sweetner of Life, and all its Com- " forts! Thou Companion of Reaſon, and Guard of the " Paſſions! Thou bountiful Rewarder of thy Admirers and " Followers! How do thine Excellencies extort the unwil- " ling Commendations of thine Enemies! And with what " rapturous Pleaſures can thy Friends raiſe up a Panegyric " in thy Praiſe."

Not only the *Bodies*, but the Minds, of Men are greatly infected by theſe corroſive inflammatory Spirits, which render them in a remarkable Manner ſavage and furious, ready for every Violence, and void of all Compaſſion. The Effect is the ſame upon Brute Creatures; for

It is very obſervable, that theſe pernicious diſtilled Spirits not only hurt the Fleſh, but ſpoil the Tempers, of Hogs, rendering them remarkably cruel to each other.

This I have upon good Information. As to the Effects of the Fleſh of Hogs fed by Diſtillers upon the Human Body, we have a very authentic Account thereof in a Report from a Committee of the Honourable Houſe of Commons, to whom was referred, in the Year 1735, the Petition of ſeveral YEOMEN, FARMERS and GRAZIERS, in the Counties of *Middleſex*, *Surry*, and *Kent*, concerned in the Growth of CORN, and the Breeding and Fatting of CATTLE; alſo the PETITION of the YEOMEN and FARMERS of *Eaſt Kent*.

Mr. *Timothy Child* ſaid, that he had been in the Buſineſs of making of Bacon upwards of twenty Years: That he had bought Hogs fatted by Farmers and Diſtillers; that Pork and Bacon of Diſtillers Hogs was not near ſo good as the Farmers, if kept any Time; nor was the Fleſh ſo firm when dreſſed; that it waſted in the Dreſſing very much; and that ſix Pounds of the Bacon, fed in the Country, would do as much Service as eight Pounds of what is fed by the Diſtillers.

That the Fleſh of Diſtillers Hogs would take Salt, being of a ſoft Nature; but was unwholeſome when kept in Salt or Pickle any Time; and half of it would be rotten, when the Fleſh of the Farmers Hogs, killed at the ſame Time, would be very good.

He ſaid further, That he apprehended the Pork and Bacon of Hogs, fed by Diſtillers, would not keep good in a Voyage to the *Eaſt* or *Weſt-Indies*; and that if the Feeding of *Hogs by the Farmers was encouraged*, it would cauſe a great *Conſumption* of Corn.

Mr. *John Jennings* ſaid, that the Commiſſioners at the Victualling-Office had made an Experiment, by ſalting ſome Meat of Hogs fed by Diſtillers, and ſome of thoſe

fed by Farmers; and after each had been barrelled six Months, both were opened, and the Diſtillers was found to be great Part of it rotten, and the Farmers very good.

Theſe hurtful Spirits greatly tend alſo to the depraving the Morals of Mankind, by quenching the Spirit of Religion to ſuch a Degree, as to make them profane and abandon'd, as to all Senſe of Duty to God or Man; as alſo wholly regardleſs of their own either preſent, or future eternal Welfare and Happineſs.

Thus, not only their temporal bodily Health is irreparably depraved to ſuch a Degree, as that, by the concurring Teſtimony of all Phyſicians, it cannot be reſtored; for Medicines have no healing Efficacy in ſuch Caſes. But what is infinitely worſe, and an aſtoniſhing Conſideration; their Souls are debaſed and ſunk, at ſo vaſt a Diſtance, from all the healing Influences of Religion, that they have no Senſe of, nor Longings after the *Fountain of ever-living Waters*.

And ſince this Evil is become ſo very epidemical as to debilitate and deſtroy Multitudes, how fatal muſt it be to the real Welfare of any Nation, where it rages. Such weighty Conſiderations ought therefore, in Reaſon, to rouſe the Governors of the Nation, as tender Fathers, to uſe their utmoſt Endeavours to deliver the people, committed to their Charge, from this mighty Deſtroyer. Can there be any Conſiderations of ſufficient Weight to the contrary? And will not this in the End be found a more effectual Means to increaſe the real Strength and Wealth of a Nation, than to make Drunkenneſs the cheapeſt of all Vices.

As the learned Phyſicians at BATH are in a particular Manner converſant with the Diſtempers which proceed from exceſſive Drinking, I was extremely deſirous of knowing the Sentiments of that ſkilful, humane, and religious Phyſician Dr. HARTLEY; who much for the Benefit of Perſons viſited with Sickneſs, has now reſided at that Place for ſome Years. His benevolent Regard to his

Fellow Creatures, prompted him to ſend me the following very judicious, and very ſerious Letter. The Opinion and Obſervations of a Gentleman of ſo great Skill and Integrity have been thought, by very able Judges, too important and too uſeful to be ſuppreſs'd; however, his Modeſty would otherwiſe have declined the Publication of them.

My Lord,

I Fear it will not be in my Power to ſuggeſt any Thing of Efficacy to ſtop the Progreſs of ſo great an Evil as the preſent Practice of drinking Spirituous Liquors; however, as your Lordſhip does me the Honour to deſire my Concurrence in ſo good a Cauſe; I think myſelf obliged to uſe my beſt Endeavours, and will accordingly offer ſome Remarks upon the two Points propoſed by your Lordſhip, *viz.*

I. The *Nature* and *Certainty* of the ill Effects produced by Gin and other Spirituous Liquors.

II. The moſt likely and proper Methods of putting an effectual Stop to the pernicious and ſpreading Vice of Drinking them.

The *firſt*, Of the ill Effects of Spirituous Liquors, which I ſhall conſider, is their *deſtroying Life* and *Health*. Now in this Reſpect they may be ranked amongſt *Poiſons*; for the frequent continued Uſe of them does as *certainly* deſtroy Life, though not in ſo ſhort a Time, as the Bodies termed poiſonous in a ſtrict Senſe. And as Poiſons, before they extinguiſh Life, diſorder the natural Functions, and occaſion exquiſite Pains and Torments, ſo do Spirituous Liquors. They never fail to reduce the unhappy Sufferers to a moſt deplorable State by a Variety of uneaſy and intenſe Feelings and Maladies, Sickneſs, Vomitings, Languor, Dejection, Pains of the Stomach and Bowels, Jaundice, Dropſy, Conſumption, *&c.* ſo that nothing is gained by their being more tedious in their Operation than common Poiſons. Nay, it is probable that

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the moſt malicious Invention could not contrive ſo great a Degree of Suffering, as Dram-drinkers inflict upon themſelves in their Way to the Regions of Death and Hell.

A *ſecond* Evil attending theſe unhappy Perſons, is their being reduced to utter Want and Diſtreſs in their Fortunes; they ſpend their Subſtance and daily Earnings, lead an idle and vagabond Life, and after ſome Time are rendered incapable, both in Body and Mind, of getting an honeſt Livelihood. And thus it happens, that ſome die through the Want of even the moſt common Neceſſaries.

The *third* Evil is the intire Subverſion of all moral and religious Principles, and the Force which is given to irregular and outrageous Paſſions; and in this diſtilled Spirits far exceed all other inebriating Liquors. DRUNKENNESS *from them* is *Frenzy* and *Madneſs*. Hence Murders, Street-robberies, Houſe-breakings, and all the enormous Miſchiefs and Dangers which infeſt *London* and other populous Places: Hence the Loſs of many precious Souls for which Chriſt died. It is in Gin-ſhops and infamous Houſes, where Spirituous Liquors are ſold, that *Youth* are firſt debauched, and entered into Gangs of older Profligates, and of abandoned Ruffians; ſo that one may call them a kind of *Schools* for teaching the *extreameſt Vices*, and the Depths of Satan.

If now we conſider theſe Evils as extending every Day more and more to each Age, Sex, and Rank of Life, but eſpecially to the *laborious* Part of Mankind, which make the Bulk of it, and that in every Climate, the hotteſt as well as the coldeſt; it will follow, that more and *more* dreadful Havock is likely to be made by diſtilled Spirits, than by Peſtilences, Wars, and Famines, all put together.

How to prevent this is therefore a Matter of the higheſt Importance; it is probable that it cannot immediately be done in any great Degree; Reaſon and Religion cannot take place with any great Effect, except in the *Few*: The *Many*, the head-ſtrong Multitude, are too violently impelled by their Paſſions to ſee and hear, and will take the *broad Path*; and yet every Man, whether his Station be public or pri-

vate, may, by desiring God's Blessing on his Endeavours, and then using them to the utmost of his Power, do something.

And *first*, All Persons ought diligently to watch over themselves, lest they be betrayed insensibly, as it were, into the Habit of Dram-drinking. A Dram is supposed a ready Cure for a slight Sickness, or Pain in the Stomach, and for a Fit of Low Spirits; also a proper Defence against Cold in a Journey, *&c.* and many unwary, and at first innocent Persons of *both* Sexes, are in this Way seduced, and afterwards gradually carried on to the most abandoned and miserable State.

Secondly, All *Masters and Mistresses* of Families, and Superiors of other Kinds, ought to watch over their Servants and Dependants, and by all proper Restraints and Prohibitions, secure their Innocency, as far as lies in their Power. The *Officers* of the *Army* and *Navy* have, perhaps, in this Respect, a harder Task than any other Superiors; but they cannot deserve better of their Country, than by exerting themselves vigorously in the Discharge of a Duty which is of the greatest Importance to its Safety and Welfare.

Thirdly, *The Clergy* are indispensably bound to guard against the Introduction and Spreading of this pernicious Vice in their Parishes, and to warn their Flocks, by private Admonitions, from House to House, in certain proper Cases, as well as by public Preachings.

Fourthly, *Justices of the Peace* have considerable Powers intrusted with them, which may serve the good Purposes of preventing and restraining Dram-drinking; they are therefore obliged to direct and exert their best Endeavours for these Purposes.

Lastly, The *Legislative Power* of the Nation may *undoubtedly* find out *some* Method, by which they, as God's Vicegerents, may at least *check* a Vice of so destructive a Nature to the People under their Charge: For He, who has given them a Commission to promote Good and prevent Evil, will certainly support and bless them in the Execution

of it. Whatever *preſent* Inconveniencies may attend the leſſening *one* Branch of the public Revenue, whatever Objections and Miſconſtructions, an oppoſite political Intereſt may throw in the Way, all thoſe, who act with a proper Regard to the Almighty and righteous Governor of the World, and Confidence in him, will meet with Succeſs and Reward from him at laſt, and may for the preſent expect the Concurrence, Aſſiſtance, and Prayers of good and wiſe Men, as an Earneſt and Means thereof. This is a general Truth, of which I cannot doubt; but as to the particular Method of putting the deſireable Deſign in Execution, I am not able to ſuggeſt any Thing concerning it. I am,

With all Reſpect, MY LORD,

Your Lordſhip's Moſt Obedient,

Dec. 4, 1750.

and moſt Humble Servant,

D. HARTLEY.

I find that the inquiſitive and ſkilful Mr. *J. T.* of BRISTOL, Author of, *A brief Eſſay on the Advantages and Diſadvantages which reſpectively attend* France *and* Great-Britain, *with regard to Trade*, &c. printed for *T. Trye*, 1750, has collected, from Gentlemen of great Knowledge and Experience in that Place, ſome Obſervations, which I hope will ſoon be laid before the Public, upon diſtilled *Spirituous Liquors*, and the proper Methods to prevent the exceſſive Uſe of them, with particular *Eſtimates* of the Loſs occaſioned thereby to *Great-Britain*, in the ſeveral Articles of Huſbandry, Manufactories, Trade, *&c.* which amounts in the whole to a prodigious Sum.

I find that the inquiring Genius of Mr. T. of Brita-
[illegible] Author of [illegible] on the Advantages and
[illegible] which appeared [illegible] and Great-
Britain, with regard to Trade, &c. printed for T. Payne,
1770, has collected, from Gentlemen of great Knowledge
and Experience in that Place, some Observations, which I
hope will soon be laid before the Public, upon diffused Prin-
ciples of Reason; and the proper Methods to prevent the ex-
cessive Use of them, with particular Attention of the Evils
occasioned thereby to Great-Britain, in the several Articles
of Husbandry, Manufactories, Trade, &c. which amount
in the whole to a prodigious Sum.